

# Title VI

# Nondiscrimination Program & Implementation Plan FFY2022

# Office of Civil Rights

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These documents are available online at:

ITD FTA Title VI/Nondiscrimination Implementation Plan

ITD FTA Limited English Plan

ITD FTA Public Transportation State Management Plan

#### I. OVERVIEW

Idaho Department of Transportation divides its operations into six geographical districts. The headquarters and aviation division are located in Boise, Idaho. The state transportation system is inextricably woven into the fabric of Idaho life. The people of Idaho use Idaho's transportation system to get to work, school, friends, and recreation.

Idaho's transportation system is the backbone of the state's economy. Safe and efficient roads, bridges, airports, railroads and ports promote the expansion of Idaho's economy. The cost of doing business is affected by how well goods and people can be moved across town, across the country and around the world. Thus, Idaho's economic performance is tied to the quality of our transportation system.

ITD receives Federal-aid from the U.S. Department of Transportation and its Operating Administrations including, Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration (FMCSA), Federal Aviation Administration (FAA), and the Federal Transit Administration (FTA). Pursuant to the United States Department of Transportation Order 1050.2A, the Idaho Transportation Department (ITD) hereby agrees, that "No person in the United States shall, on the grounds of race, color, national origin, be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or otherwise subjected to discrimination under any program or activity," for which ITD receives Federal financial assistance, including the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration (FMCSA), the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA), and the Federal Transit Administration (FTA).

The Civil Rights Restoration Act of 1987 clarified the original intent of Congress, with respect to Title VI and other Non-discrimination requirements ((The Age Discrimination Act of 1975 (age), and (Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 (disability)), by restoring the broad, institutional-wide scope of coverage of these non-discrimination statutes and requirements to include all programs and activities of ITD, so long as any portion of the program is Federally assisted. Additionally, the Federal-Aid Highway Act of 1973 (23 U.S.C. § 324 et seq.) prohibited discrimination based on sex. Executive Orders 12898 (Environmental Justice) and 13166 (Limited English Proficiency) provided additional clarification under Title VI (see Appendix A for a list of Authorities).

ITD will comply with the requirements of the Title VI Program in all of its activities, programs, and services.

The Director of the Idaho Transportation Department has the ultimate responsibility for complying with Title VI of the 1964 Civil Rights Act and related Non-discrimination authorities. The Director delegates the authority to develop, maintain, implement, and monitor this policy to the Office of Civil Rights Title VI Program Coordinator. To request additional information on ITD's Title VI program and nondiscrimination requirements email or write:

Jessika Phillips
Office of Civil Rights Program Manager/Title VI/Nondiscrimination Coordinator
jessika.phillips@itd.idaho.gov

Jaymie Peters

DBE Coordinator
jaymie.peters@itd.idaho.gov

Ronnie Winks Contract Compliance Officer ronnie.winks@itd.idaho.gov

or email Civilrights@itd.idaho.gov

Idaho Transportation Department PO Box 7129 Boise, Idaho, 83707

Website: ITD Office of Civil Rights.

# II. TITLE VI/NONDISCRIMINATION POLICY STATEMENT

It is the policy of the Idaho Transportation Department (ITD) to comply with Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 and to adhere to all related Non-discrimination authorities. ITD will ensure that "no person in the United States shall, on the ground of race, color, or national origin," sex, age, disability, low-income, and Limited English Proficiency (LEP), "be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be subjected to discrimination under any program or activity," for which ITD "receives Federal financial assistance." Accordingly, to ensure compliance with Title VI of the Civil Rights Act, ITD commits to:

- Conducting and operating each of its programs and facilities in compliance with all requirements imposed, or pursuant to Title VI of the Civil Rights Act and related Nondiscrimination authorities;
- 2. Providing non-discrimination methods of administration for programs and to give other recipients, subgrantees, contractors, subcontractors, transferees, successors in interest, and other participants of Federal financial assistance under such programs, a requirement to comply with Title VI of the Civil rights Act and related Non-discrimination authorities;
- 3. Promptly taking any measures necessary to effect compliance with Title VI of the Civil Rights Act and related Non-discrimination authorities.

Further, ITD will take proactive efforts to prevent discrimination and will address, but is not limited to, a program's impact upon access, benefits, participation, treatment, services, contracting opportunities, training opportunities, and/or will undertake the investigation of any complaint.

In accordance with 49 C.F.R. § 21, 49 C.F.R. § 303 and 23 C.F.R § 200, ITD developed procedures for prompt processing and disposition of Title VI complaints. Any person believing ITD or any of its subrecipients violated the provisions of Title VI in the administration of its program or activities may file a complaint with ITD's Office of Civil Rights.

#### Responsibilities

The Director of the Idaho Transportation Department located at 3311 W. State Street, Boise, Idaho 83703 is responsible for this policy. The Director delegated Title VI Program responsibilities to the Office of Civil Rights Program Manager/Title VI/Nondiscrimination Coordinator and he/she must implement and continuously monitor this Title VI/Nondiscrimination Program. Additionally, the Director delegates responsibilities to all affected personnel to work with the Title VI Program Manager/Title VI/Nondiscrimination Coordinator to effectively implement the Title VI Program.

Individuals with questions or requiring additional information relating to this policy of the implementation of ITD's Title VI Program should contact the Office of Civil Rights Title VI Program Manager/Title VI/Nondiscrimination Coordinator located at the address above, or call the Office of Civil Rights at 208-334-8884.

Scott Stokes

Director

Date

Jessika Phillips

III. ASSURANCES

Title VI/Nondiscrimination Coordinator

In accordance with USDOT, 1050.2A a copy of ITD's Title VI Nondiscrimination Assurances signed by ITD's Director is available at:

http://apps.itd.idaho.gov/apps/ocr/ocrCOMPLIANCEDOCS.aspx

# IV. ORGANIZATION AND STAFFING

ITD's Office of Civil Rights oversees the Department's Title VI plan and meets the terms of FHWA and FTA implementing guidance. The Department's Title VI responsibilities are described below (Organization Chart is located in Appendix B).

# Organization

#### ITD Director

The Director is the head of ITD. He is responsible to the Governor, the Idaho Legislature, and the Idaho Transportation Board for ensuring implementation of the Department's Title VI plan. The Director provides leadership, guidance, direction, and support for ITD's Title VI programs. The Director is responsible for supervising and administering the overall activities of the Department, its divisions, and employees. As such, the Director signs all necessary nondiscrimination assurances to ensure all civil rights requirements are met. The Director delegates duties and/or powers to carry out the efficient operation of the department.

#### Office of Civil Rights Program Manager/Title VI/Nondiscrimination Coordinator

The Director delegated the Title VI Program authorities and responsibilities to the OCR Program Manager/Title VI/Nondiscrimination Coordinator. This person reports directly to the ITD Director for all Tile VI matters. As such, this person is to work directly with ITD Management to implement the department-wide Title VI Program. Functionally, the OCR Program Manager/Title VI/Nondiscrimination Coordinator is responsible for managing the Office of Civil Rights and reports directly to the Chief Human Resources Officer regarding daily operations. At the bidding of the Director, the OCR Program Manager/Title VI/Nondiscrimination Coordinator supervises, reviews, monitors, and evaluates the effectiveness of the implementation of the ITD Title VI Nondiscrimination Program, and other additional civil rights programs, as follows:

- Employee Nondiscrimination Program (Title VII)
- Internal Affirmative Action
- Limited English Proficiency (LEP)
- Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCU) and Minority Institutions of Higher Education (MIHE) programs
- The internal and external Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) Programs
- Act as the liaison between ITD, federal, and state officials regarding any Title VI Equal Employment Opportunity (EEO) contract compliance and ADA issues or complaints

Additionally, day-to-day Title VI Program operations and responsibilities reside with the Contract Compliance Officer. The OCR Program Manager/Title VI/Nondiscrimination Coordinator is

tasked with ensuring that ITD and its staff fully comply with the Code of Federal Regulations (49 part 21 & 23 CFR Part 200, and other related Non-discrimination authorities).

More specifically, the Contract Compliance Officer (CCO) oversees the external EEO programs, including the Title VI, EEO Contract Compliance, Training Special Provisions, Tribal Employment Rights Ordinance (TERO), and OJT Supportive Services programs. This requires that there is frequent oversight of all external highway construction projects, Title VI activities, preparing and submitting EEO/contract compliance review reports and documents, and providing all annual program assessments and updates to the FHWA. The CCO, in addition, provides guidance and technical assistance for all Title VI Program matters and conducts Title VI Program training and compliance reviews of ITD's subrecipients.

#### **Program Specialist**

The Program Specialist collects data on contracts and agreements for both federally funded and state funded projects. He/she analyzes and monitors the Title VI Special Provisions and ensures the contractors comply with Title VI Program requirements. The Program Specialist furthermore serves as ITD's Disadvantaged Business Enterprises (DBE) Program Coordinator responsible for training contractors, subrecipients, and ITD employees on the DBE program, Diversity Management Software, and on any data collection requirements.

#### Program Area Coordinator (PAC)

Each of the designated Title VI program areas has a Program Area Coordinator (PAC) responsible for ensuring their respective programs comply with Title VI, Environmental Justice (E.O. 12898) and Limited English Proficiency (E.O. 13166) requirements. The eight divisional program areas with a designated PAC are Planning Services, Public Involvement, Environmental, Right of Way, Contract Administration, Maintenance, Safety, and Research. The PAC will provide program activity information to the OCR Program Manager on an ongoing basis.

#### Managers and Supervisors

Managers and supervisors must familiarize themselves with the requirements of Title VI, Environmental Justice (E.O. 12898), and Limited English Proficiency (E.O. 13166) and related Non-discrimination authorities. They must ensure compliance with the department's Title VI Program. They should promptly report issues, concerns, and complaints regarding any Title VI program matters and related issues to the OCR Office. They also must assist the Title VI Program Area Coordinators with their efforts to implement all Title VI Program requirements, internally and externally, and to coordinate with the OCR Office on any proposed changes to any ITD operating procedures, instructional memoranda, policies, and manuals, etc. especially if it relates to the Title VI program.

# District Safety and Compliance Officers (SCO)

Each of the six districts has one SCO who assists the OCR Office with communicating the requirements of the Title VI program to the appropriate individuals in their respective Districts. As well, each SCO provides guidance to the District concerning Title VI compliance issues, provides an avenue for Title VI complaints to make it expeditiously to the OCR Office, and he/she assists with ensuring that the District administer the Title VI programs, services, and activities fairly and with regard to protected factors. The SCO also assists the CCO with reviewing and monitoring all highway construction activities involving Title VI Program requirements and acts as a liaison to tribal representatives as needed. The SCO meets regularly with the OCR Program Manager to help identify projects for contract compliance reviews or other audit related activities. OCR chooses reviews on projects based on scope, last compliance audit factors, special emphasis areas of concern, and/or any other previous show cause notices issued.

#### Title VI Program Guidance:

#### FHWA and FTA Civil Rights Offices

The FHWA Division office Civil Rights Program Manager and FTA Regional Civil Rights Officer provide ITD's Office of Civil Rights guidance on Title VI Program matters. Communication between ITD, the FHWA Idaho Division Office and FTA Regional Office is regular and ongoing. Both FHWA Division Office and FTA Regional Office are responsible for ensuring that ITD has an approved Title VI/Nondiscrimination Plan (including signed Title VI/Nondiscrimination Assurances/Agreements) and Annual Update Reports. Additionally, the federal oversight includes how ITD implements an effective monitoring program of subrecipients. This effort includes making sure they effectively implement the Title VI Program and the additional Nondiscrimination requirements. ITD provides documentation to FHWA and FTA through each website available via remote access. ITD meets as necessary and/or required to keep both agencies informed.

## V. PROGRAM AREA REVIEWS

In accordance with 23 CFR 200.9 (b) (14 and 15), ITD OCR reviews and monitors internal projects, programs, policies, and procedures to ensure compliance with nondiscrimination requirements and the Department's Title VI Program obligations. Working in coordination with PACs, the OCR office conducts annual Title VI Program reviews and includes its findings in the Department's Title VI annual update to the Title VI Implementation Plan. During the annual reviews, OCR staff reviews the pertinent data and any information specifically related to the program area's administration.

The OCR office develops and implements the Department's Title VI program and establishes adequate procedures for identifying and addressing Title VI Program issues. While the OCR is

the focal point for the Title VI program at the State level, it is essential that the program's implementation and monitoring activities be undertaken in a joint fashion with the PACs.

Program area reviews include analyzing data collected within each program area to evaluate and ensure nondiscrimination processes and procedures. To ensure proper oversight, the OCR Program Manager/Title VI/Nondiscrimination Coordinator meets with the PACs representing the program areas; Planning Services, Public Involvement, Environmental, Right of Way, Contract Administration, Construction, Maintenance, Highway Safety, and Research. Each program area will provide the OCR Program Manager/Title VI/Nondiscrimination Coordinator a list of annual goals and accomplishments. Annual reviews will focus on the following key elements within each program area.

#### **Planning Services**

(A section overview is located at Statewide Projects.)

The Planning Services Section has the primary responsibility for delivering the state highway planning and project management process in accordance with Title VI program requirements. The annual review by OCR focuses on:

- The <u>Idaho Transportation Investment Program</u>. It provides an overview of the process, strategies, and goals for transportation planning and project selection.
- Compliance with Environmental Justice (E.O. 12898) and Limited English Proficiency (E.O. 13166) by utilizing demographic information to identify minority, low-income and limited English proficient populations. An EJ analysis also examines the accessibility and distribution of the benefits/burdens of the transportation plans and activities on these groups.
- Service equities. OCR examines planning data, the collection process and analysis, and seeks to know if there are any impacts on the various different socio-economic groups.
- Monitoring and reporting on the Planning Services Section annual accomplishments and goals.
- Requiring all MPOs to provide annually a nondiscrimination assurance and a certification
  of nondiscrimination. The Department tests these certifications at least triennially or
  through FHWA/ITD/MPO Joint Certification Reviews. One of the primary goals of these
  reviews is to ensure nondiscrimination in the planning process.
- Updating an extensive handbook covering the federal and state planning requirements for LPAs (Guidelines for Local Public Agency Projects).
- The Department uses a Quality Assurance Program to perform the following oversight activities:

- Sampling contracts to ensure inclusion of required nondiscrimination provisions.
- Sampling public involvement materials including meeting notices, project flyers and other similar documents to ensure appropriate nondiscrimination language.
- Reviewing Title VI/Nondiscrimination Quarterly Reports searching for possible trends of discrimination in planning.
- Interviewing District and/or MPO planning staff to identify emerging issues and needs.
- Reviewing Annual Certifications of MPO Planning Process to ensure compliance with the Title VI Program and other related Non-discrimination authorities.

#### Public Involvement

(A section overview is located at Guide to Public Involvement.)

ITD's Office of Communication maintains the department's website and manages public involvement for transportation projects statewide. The annual review by OCR focuses on:

- The public input process to make sure that it complied with all Title VI Program requirements and that any outreach efforts encourage and/or help to eliminate barriers to participation especially among minority and low-income populations.
- Utilization of demographic information to identify minority and low-income populations, to determine outreach strategies for these populations, and to address concerns regarding improving access to transportation and any knowledge thereof.
- Reviewing the process and approach for managing requests for ADA or LEP accommodation at public meetings.
- Monitor and report the Office of Communication Sections annual accomplishments and goals.
- The Department uses a Public Involvement process to provide early, continuous, and
  extensive outreach to all communities. In particular, to ensure that project selection does
  not subject minority, low income, disabled, and the elderly to disproportionately high and
  adverse effects of discrimination. More information provided at <u>Guide to Public</u>
  Involvement.

#### **Environmental**

(A section overview is located at Environmental Process Manual.)

It is the mission of the Environmental Section to protect and enhance a sustainable human and natural environment while developing safe, cost effective, and efficient transportation systems for all persons. It is the responsibility of the Environmental Section to scrutinize projects to ensure they comply with Title VI requirements, evaluate the effects of projects on underserved populations, and to evaluate projects for disproportionately high or adverse effects on any E.J. populations. FHWA Order 6640.23A and 23 CFR 200.9(b) (4). The Environmental Section regularly identifies and addresses socio-economic issues as well as endorses activities to restore, enhance, and sustain natural ecological systems and their functions, while continuing to meet transportation safety and service's needs. The term "environment" includes the natural environment, the built environment, the cultural and social fabric of the community, and the quality of life of the people. The annual review by OCR focuses on:

- Overall strategies and goals of the Environmental section to ensure Title VI compliance.
- Department programs and that public involvement is the cornerstone of Title VI and Environmental Justice Compliance. The Department has a Public Involvement Program designed to provide early, continuous, and extensive outreach to all communities, but in particular, to ensure that project selection does not subject minority, low income, disabled, and elderly populations to disproportionately high and adverse effects.
- Procedures for the identifying environmental impacts on minority and low-income populations using the Department's Environmental Evaluation checklist (Appendix C ITD Form 0654) and data collection methods.
- Analysis and implementation of mitigate measures when there is the potential for disproportionate or discriminatory impacts on minority or low-income populations.
- Monitoring and reporting on the Environmental Section annual accomplishments and goals. The Department uses a detailed and comprehensive Project Development & Environmental (PD&E) Manual (<u>Environmental Process Manual</u>) that describes how the Department complies with environmental requirements in project development. The Manual includes extensive chapters on both public involvement and Title VI Program compliance.
- The Department uses a Quality Assurance Program to perform the following oversight activities annually such as:
  - Sampling consultant contracts to ensure inclusion of required nondiscrimination provisions as well as diversity in selection of consulting firms.
  - Sampling project development and estimates documents to ensure appropriate nondiscrimination language, and or that project personnel translated vital documents into languages other than English, as necessary.

- Reviewing Title VI/Nondiscrimination Reports looking for possible trends of discrimination.
- Interviewing District staff to identify emerging issues and needs.
- Sampling environmental documents to ensure that Community Impact
   Assessments appropriately identify underserved communities and discuss
   avoidance, minimization, and mitigation measures for disproportionately high or
   adverse impacts on minority and low-income populations.
- Sampling information developed by District staff to ensure the validity of the socioeconomic data used to make decisions.

## Right-Of-Way

(A section overview is located at Right of Way Manual.)

The Right-of-Way Section is responsible for the acquisition of all property required for highway construction, material sources, and maintenance shed sites. The section is also responsible for the oversight of all Local Public Agencies acquiring property, who utilize federal funding for highway purposes. The acquisition of right-of-way follows the planning, design phases of the highway development process, and is one of the final phases prior to the actual award of the construction contract. The annual review by OCR focuses on:

- Overall strategies and goals of the Right-of-Way section to ensure Title VI compliance
- Ensure the inclusion of Title VI Program provisions in all realtor, fee appraiser, and negotiator contracts
- Ensure equitable treatment of all businesses and persons displaced by highway projects, regardless of race, color, national origin, sex, age, or disability
- Efforts taken to overcome language barriers in all phases of the right-of-way process
- Ensuring that internal procedures are reviewed and updated as necessary to maintain
   Title VI Program compliance during all phases of the right-of-way process
- Monitoring and reporting the Right of Way Section annual accomplishments and goals.
   The Department uses a Quality Assurance Program to perform the following oversight activities to ensure nondiscrimination and that ROW:
  - Uses interpreters and translators as necessary to ensure that those with LEP needs receive meaningful access to the Department's services.
  - o Addresses the need for special accommodation for those with disabilities.

- Staff ensures that all projects have a ROW plan and the staff makes certain compliance with the Uniform Act Relocation Assistance, the Real Property Acquisition Policies Act of 1970, and the Title VI Civil Rights Act of 1964 and related Non-discrimination authorities.
- The Title VI/Nondiscrimination CR Office VI/Nondiscrimination Coordinator issuing RFI
  performs desk audits, conducts an onsite visits, issues approved findings and oversees
  compliance with any corrective action plan. As part of the QAR process, the Coordinator
  examines data and items for nondiscrimination, including but not limited to:
  - Reviewing the appraisals, acquisitions, relocations, and other documentation for nondiscrimination and who reports the activities to the District Title
     VI/Nondiscrimination Coordinator.
  - Sampling appraisal contracts to ensure inclusion of required nondiscrimination provisions as well as diversity in selection of consulting firms.
  - Sampling the ROW public information items including information notices, relocation assistance documents, and other similar materials to ensure the appropriate nondiscrimination language is included within the documents and that any information for the public be offered in alternative languages as required by the Department's LEP Plan.
  - Interviewing District ROW staff to identify emerging issues and needs
  - Sampling project right of way documents to ensure appraisals, acquisitions, and relocation assistance do not show trends and patterns of discrimination, in particular discrimination whether intentional or unintentional against minorities or those with low income
  - Conducting interviews with members of the public impacted by acquisition and relocation

#### **Contract Administration**

(A section overview is located at Contract Administration Manual.)

The Contracting Services Section provides statewide services in the areas of bidding and awarding construction contracts; performing procurement for Design Build, Construction Manager/General Contractor contracts, Qualification Based Selection agreements, and oversite of the Local Highway Technical Assistance Council (LHTAC). This section is also responsible for management of the State Planning and Research program and statewide agreement services. The annual review by OCR focuses on:

- Examining with the overall strategies and goals of the Contract Administration section to ensure compliance with Title VI Program requirements
- Administering and enforcing the terms of the construction contracts. Ensure that contracts are delivered in a nondiscriminatory manner
- Monitoring the District residencies to ensure that subcontracts contain the appropriate
   Title VI Program contract provisions
- Ensuring that policies and procedures for monitoring construction activity is uniformly and applied in a nondiscriminatory manner
- Monitoring and reporting the Contract Administration Section annual accomplishments and goals.
- Monitoring how prime contractors advertise and award sub-contracting opportunities.
- Monitoring of prime and subcontracting opportunities to ensure that disadvantaged and small business opportunities receive Department work.
- Ensuring contract administration staff distributes information to stakeholders and the public, following the Department's public involvement procedures and LEP plan.
- Carefully reviewing project activities to avoid disproportionately high or adverse impacts to underserved communities during all construction phases.
- Adhering to the Department's Construction Compliance Program for DBE/EEO/OJT and Prevailing Wage Rates.
- Regularly checking all contracts and random subcontracts to ensure appropriate nondiscrimination language and required contract provision inclusions.
- Each District has a Title VI/Nondiscrimination person responsible for Construction. The
  person reviews documents and other project activities for nondiscrimination and reports
  quarterly to the Office of Civil Rights Title VI/Nondiscrimination Coordinator.
- Title VI/Nondiscrimination Coordinator, who issues a RFI, performs a desk audit, conducts an onsite visit, issues an approved finding, and oversees compliance with a corrective action plan, if any. As part of the QAR, the Coordinator examines data for nondiscrimination, including but not limited to:
  - Sampling of construction contracts, subcontracts, purchase orders and lease agreements to ensure inclusion of required nondiscrimination provisions

- Sampling of construction public involvement materials including meeting notices, project flyers and other similar documents to ensure appropriate nondiscrimination language
- Reviewing Title VI/Nondiscrimination Quarterly Reports searching data for possible trends of discrimination
- Interviewing District Construction staff to identify emerging issues and needs
- Sampling Contract Compliance Reviews to ensure adequacy and consistency of the process

#### **Construction/Materials**

(A section overview is located at: ITD Standard Specifications for Highway Construction.)

The Construction/Materials Section is responsible for construction administration and project inspection. This section also maintains the construction, materials, and construction specification manuals. The annual review by OCR focuses on:

- Overall strategies and goals of the Construction/Material section to ensure Title VI compliance
- Overseeing the monitoring of construction project work to ensure compliance with contract plans, specifications and civil rights special provisions
- Monitoring and reporting the Construction Section annual accomplishments and goals.

# Maintenance (Operations)

(See Section Manual at: Maintenance Operations Manual.)

Maintenance assumes a primary role in safeguarding the safety and efficiency of the roadway network by responding to the short-term maintenance needs on the roadway system, such as potholes, damaged guardrails, wash-outs, knocked down signs and signals, traffic accident cleanup, material and cargo spills, flood damage, landslide damage, rock falls, blizzards, wind storms, etc. Maintenance activities are conducted from the facilities at six District headquarters locations (including shops), maintenance foreman area stations, and satellite stations. The annual review by OCR focuses on:

- The project selection process to ensure the Maintenance Program is being implemented in a nondiscriminatory manner
- Reviewing the implementation of the Maintenance Program to ensure activities are performed in a nondiscriminatory manner

Monitoring and report the Maintenance (Operations) annual accomplishments and goals.

## **Highway Safety**

(A section overview is located at: Strategic Highway Safety Plan.)

The Office of Highway Safety (OHS) programs focuses on the welfare of the traveling public. Its main purpose is to save lives through creative, highly visible, innovative, and effective highway safety programs for all modes of transportation. The critical role of OHS is to ensure safe travel on Idaho's roadways that includes developing and implementing highway safety programs aimed at saving lives, preventing injuries, and to providing appropriate safety funds that empower communities to address critical local traffic safety issues. The annual review by OCR focuses on:

- Overall strategies and goals of the Highway Safety section to ensure Title VI compliance
- Ensures subrecipients receiving federal funds include Title VI Program Assurances
- The public input process and making that it complies with Title VI Program requirements
  , it allows for greater outreach efforts, it is open and fair, and that it encourage
  participation within the minority and low-income community, and that it eliminates any
  barriers to participation
- Monitoring and reporting the Office of Highway Safety annual accomplishments and goals.

#### Research

(A section overview is located at Research Program).

The research section coordinates the development of the annual work program for federal State Planning and Research (SPR) funds. This section administers the research, development and technology transfer projects funded with SPR funds. The annual review by OCR focuses on:

- Overall strategies and goals of the Research section to ensure Title VI compliance
- Ensure that the appropriate Title VI Program provisions are contained in the terms of all research agreements
- Monitor diversification in the selection of universities and consultants
- Ensure equal opportunity for female and minority-owned consultant firms to compete for and participate in research contracts

- Monitor the utilization of female and minority students on research projects by the contract universities
- Monitor and report the Research Section annual accomplishments and goals.

# **Special Emphasis Program Areas**

Based on the analysis conducted by the Office of Civil Rights ITD will identify Special Emphasis Program Area reviews. The OCR steps for selecting reviews are as follows:

- Step 1: Each <u>Program Area Coordinator (PAC)</u> completes the Program Area Review Questionnaire (Appendix D) highlighting the previous fiscal year activities and to provide the necessary data collected for the respective programs.
- Step 2: the OCR Program Manager/Title VI/Nondiscrimination Coordinator conducts Interviews with each PAC.
- Step 3: Sampling of documents, policies, procedures, and associated contracts to ensure inclusion of required nondiscrimination provisions.
- Step 4: Sampling public involvement material including meeting notices, project flyers, and other similar documents to ensure LEP requirements are being met.
- Step 5: The OCR Program Manager/Title VI/Nondiscrimination Coordinator will complete
  a review of the program area selected for review and issue a findings report with
  recommendations to achieve compliance to each PAC.
- Step 6: Should noncompliance exist, the OCR Program Manager/Title
   VI/Nondiscrimination Coordinator and the PAC will work together to create a Compliance
   Action Plan, which will include but not be limited to resources, training, and best practices to achieve compliance.

## **Local Programs**

(Overview of the Local Agency Program (LAP))

State and local governments may design and construct projects using FHWA and/or State funds. The Department's nondiscrimination activities for Local Public Agencies include:

- Use the Department's QAR process to review LAP activities annually to ensure nondiscrimination.
- The Office of Civil Rights Title VI Coordinator conducts Title VI/Nondiscrimination QARs by issuing an RFI, performing a desk audit, and then by conducting an onsite visit, followed with issuing a report of finding, and then overseeing compliance with any developed

corrective action plan. As part of the QAR, the Coordinator observes for nondiscrimination events, including but not limited to:

- Sampling local agency construction contracts, subcontracts, purchase orders, and lease agreements to ensure inclusion of the required nondiscrimination provisions.
- Sampling of local agency construction public involvement materials including meeting notices, project flyers, and other similar documents to ensure the documents include the appropriate nondiscrimination language.
- o Interviewing ITD District LAP staff to identify emerging issues and needs.

The Department has other program areas that are either not represented in the Districts or otherwise have limited contact with the public or the manner in which Department's delivers programs, services, or activities. Nevertheless, the Department reviews each as part of its review process to ensuring staff is receiving nondiscrimination training and understand their responsibilities under Title VI and related non-discrimination authorities.

## VI. SUBRECIPIENT REVIEW PROCEDURES

#### **FHWA FUNDING**

Each year ITD allocates a portion of its FHWA funding to five Metropolitan Planning Organizations (MPOs) and 177 Local Public Agencies (LPAs) in the form of direct funding or grants/awards to be used for transportation planning and construction projects at the metropolitan and/or local level.

Each of the five MPOs and all of the LPAs with 50 or more employees develop a Title VI Plan that describes implementation, reporting, and complaint procedures. LPA's with fewer than 50 employees will have the option to use ITD's Title VI Program process as a template and administer the Title VI program in a similar manner as resources allow.

Annually ITD establishes a schedule for Title VI Program reviews of MPOs and LPAs; ITD's annual goal is to conduct desk audits on one third of all recipients and perform onsite reviews with 30 local agencies per year.

The MPOs are responsible for the transportation planning process within their urbanized areas and by means of a Memorandum of Understanding relating to transportation planning with ITD and mutual agreement of Federal funding in support of metropolitan planning and project activities: As a result, each MPO must develop a:

- 3-year Transportation Improvement Program (TIP),
- Long-range transportation plan, and

Must develop and implement an annual Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP).

ITDs Planning Section Program Area Coordinator (PAC) assists the MPOs with transportation planning activities that he/or she must require Title VI compliance. In coordination with the Civil Rights Office, the Planning PAC also provides advice to MPOs on Title VI Program issues. The PAC oversees the Metropolitan Planning Organizations by monitoring, as follows:

- a. Reviewing the Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP) approval, administration, and oversight
- b. Evaluating the Transportation Improvement Program (TIP)
- c. By providing general assistance and or any guidance
- d. Ensuring Title VI Program compliance
- e. Assisting with MPO Federal/State reviews

The following are the five MPOs for the state of Idaho:

- Community Planning Association of Southwest Idaho (COMPASS)
- Bannock Planning Organization (BPO)
- Bonneville Metropolitan Planning Organization (BMPO)
- Kootenai Metropolitan Planning Organization (KMPO)
- Lewis-Clark Valley Metropolitan Planning Organization (LCVMPO)

The Planning Services Program Area Coordinator, the Office of Civil Rights Program Manager/Title VI/ Nondiscrimination Coordinator, and the Contract Compliance Officer will monitor the MPO's overall strategies and goals of the transportation planning process to ensure Title VI Program compliance. ITD utilizes the Title VI review criteria as outlined above to decide the level of review required. A review will evaluate the outreach efforts employed by the MPO during the 3-year planning period. One of the review functions will be to compare the demographics of attendees at planning meetings, and then perform an analysis of available documents to determine if the planning process includes underserved and underutilized populations, including low-income, and those with limited English proficiency. ITD staff will, as well examine marketing and advertising samples, marketing and email communications, and check the disposition of complaints filed against the MPO during the same period. ITD will complete the analysis and provide a report on any identified deficiencies. If necessary ITD will provide corrective action plan for the planning process that will aim to improve participation of underutilized and underserved populations.

ITD's CCO will oversee, monitor, and train subrecipients as follows:

- Review Limited English Proficiency (LEP, E.O. 13166) compliance to ensure utilization
  of demographic information. Ensure the MPOs use the data to identify potential LEP
  populations, and that the MPOs assess distributions of the benefits/burdens of the
  transportation plans and activities on these groups.
- Monitor Environmental Justice (EJ, E.O. 12898) compliance to ensure utilization of demographic information. Ensure the MPOs use the data to identify potential EJ populations, and that the MPOs assess distributions of the benefits/burdens of the transportation plans and activities on these groups.
- Monitor public involvement processes to improve effectiveness and reduce participation barriers for minority, low-income populations, and the disabled.
- Evaluate MPO annual accomplishments and goals.

#### **FTA FUNDING**

In addition to the MPO funding ITD receives FTA funds for several programs as outlined in the FTA Public Transportation State Management Plan. The Plan and details on FTA funded programs is located at: <a href="ITD FTA Public Transportation State Management Plan">ITD FTA Public Transportation State Management Plan</a>. A map of all ITD transit providers and 2016-2018 funding awarded per each ITD district is at: <a href="http://gis.hwlochner.com/itd">http://gis.hwlochner.com/itd</a> transit providers/.

ITD is not a provider of fixed route public transportation. In order to ascertain and establish compliance with the DOT Title VI regulations, ITD conducts Title VI reviews of public and private awardees and recipients of FTA funds. In order for ITD to approve any grant/award application(s) involving the receipt of federal-aid funds, awardees must complete the Title VI Assurance. The ITD-Public Transportation (PT) section includes information on required Civil Rights compliance in the annual Program Funding Guide and all agreements. The guide lists the required assurances and requires the applicant to sign a statement acknowledging that the assurances may be modified and that the applicant complies and reasonably expects to comply with any modifications. Grant applicants are made aware they will be required to sign an Assurance of Compliance with Civil Rights Requirements at the time the written agreement is executed to receive funds.

ITD-PT staff conducts program audits and reviews to ensure compliance by subrecipients. In addition, ITD Internal Review and the ITD-PT choose subrecipients each year for audits based on the amount of federal funds received, type of organization (non-profit, LPA, or for profit), and degree of local government participation and oversight. Each subrecipient is reviewed every two (2) years. These financial reviews are conducted in conjunction with a program review by ITD-PT staff. The ITD-PT section has a primary responsibility for assuring that multi-modal planning and the results of that planning are executed in accordance with Title VI requirements. This process entails deliberation of all possible social, economic, and environmental effects of a proposed plan or program on identified groups in order to avoid the unintended creation of

inappropriate and biased programs. ITD-PT section also monitors the transportation planning activities of the various MPOs to ensure consistency with Title VI compliance requirements.

ITD's Grants Officers have primary responsibility for oversight activities of subrecipients utilizing the compliance monitoring tool as a template to ensure compliance with all State Management Review areas, as well as funds to subrecipients in small urbanized areas. The questions included in this tool are based on FTA guidance circulars on each funding program, as well as those on general grants management, civil rights, and procurement for comprehensive explanations of the requirements.

The ITD website, <u>ITD Public Transportation Division</u> provides information for grantees on statewide planning and application procedures. In addition, comprehensive checklists, document samples, and other pertinent information regarding the implementation of a Title VI Program are available on the Office of Civil Rights website to ensure that LPAs and other federal-aid recipients are actively working to prevent discrimination within their organization.

ITD-PT requires all recipients to comply with the FTA regulations stated in FTA 5010.1D in regards to the standard assurances, historic preservation, all applicable environmental mitigation processes, NEPA, CE's, EA's, etc. and the project management plans.

ITD has Standard Specifications for construction which incorporates the articles and items which are the standard Federal guidelines for construction, including Davis Bacon. In response to FTA Circular 5010.1D, Page IV-31, m. Maintenance, ITD-PT requires that each facility with FTA investment have and follow a maintenance plan including maintenance of ADA accessibility features.

ITD-PT follows all State of Idaho Property Management requirements as well as the FTA C 5010.1D guidelines on Management of Real Property, Equipment and Supplies. ITD-PT maintains an inventory of all assets and equipment.

For facilities purchased or built with FTA funds ITD-PT staff will do a site visit and inspection every two (2) years until FTA no longer has vested interest. ITD-PT uses a variety of mechanisms to monitor facility construction and rehabilitation projects. Monitoring mechanisms may include, but are not limited to, one or more of the following:

- Contracting with a consultant to provide project management oversight
- Reviewing the request for proposals and construction contracts
- Reviewing plans and drawings
- Conducting periodic site inspections
- Requiring progress reports
- Conducting regular project review meetings

 Withholding payment of a portion of the grant until final inspection and acceptance of the facility by the state.

ITD's CCO is responsible to monitor Title VI plans and program implementation of ITD's subrecipients. Agencies receiving federal funding must make the appropriate recommended corrections if ITD finds noncompliance. The CCO uses a combination of ITD's Pre-award Assurance Checklist, along with a 25-point review process to examine for compliance with civil rights regulations.

Before receiving federal financial assistance, subrecipients will be required to complete ITD's Pre-Award Checklist that seeks to understand if the subrecipient has the necessary information for compliance (e.g., data on employee demographics, public outreach, Title VI policies and policy statements, etc.). The Pre-Award Checklist, examples and other checklists are available online at: <u>Local Implementation Guidance</u>.

Compliance Review Criteria and Process:

- 1. Prioritize recipients according to:
  - a. Funding amount and type,
  - b. # of complaints against an MPO or LPA,
  - c. Revisit agencies with previously identified deficiencies, and
  - d. Length of time between reviews.
- 2. Phase I-Subrecipient: Agency without an Approved Title VI Program/Plan
  - a. These agencies have <u>up to</u> 3 years to develop a comprehensive Title VI Program, which includes an LEP Plan, Environmental Justice Plan, and ADA Transition Plan. The ITD OCR Program Manager/Title VI/Nondiscrimination Coordinator and CCO assist the agencies with developing a Title VI Program and then they help to monitor the implementation. Once the ITD reviews the Title VI Program, and accepts the implementation plan, then ITD categorizes it as Phase II.
- 3. Phase II Subrecipient: Agency with an approved Title VI Program/Plan
  - a. ITD monitors the effectiveness of the agency's Title VI Program during the Phase II review. The recipient must submit documentation to ITD for review. The program documents should show effective implementation of the approved Title VI Program and provide evidence that the subrecipient monitors its program as outlined in its Title VI Program Plan. Deliverables submitted might include:
    - i. Vital documents translated for LEP population,

- ii. Environmental Justice maps used in decision-making,
- iii. Examples of training and outreach events for underutilized populations, and
- iv. Other efforts made demonstrating that the LPA's has ensured non-discrimination in all its programs and activities.
- 4. The ITD OCR Program Manager/Title VI/Nondiscrimination Coordinator and Contract Compliance Officer (CCO) will work together to classify the subrecipient into either the "Phase I" or "Phase II" review category.

Pursuant to 23 CFR 450.334, all MPOs undergo a triennial FHWA/FTA joint review, which includes a Title VI Program compliance assessment. Should the USDOT Operating Administration identify a program deficiency, within 90 days the Department will voluntarily develop an agreed upon Corrective Action Plan (CAP) with the modal agency to address the deficiencies.

#### VII. DATA COLLECTION

In accordance with federal regulations, ITD collects data on the race, color, national origin, sex, age, and disability of participants in and beneficiaries of its programs. ITD Office of Civil Rights works with the internal staff on collecting and analyzing the data to identify trends or potential barriers to access. The Office of Civil Rights reports the "Program Area" data annually in the Title VI Goals and Accomplishment Report to FHWA.

The Transportation Systems section provides data collection, analysis, and systems support for a broad range of automated systems throughout the Division of Engineering Services. The ITD ProjectWise database houses and stores most of the needed data.

Section V Program Area section herein, outlines the reviews, data collection, and analyses efforts required. ITD staff will collect data and evaluate it on an ongoing basis. For example: the Right of Way Area section collects data throughout the life of a project and the planning staff send out a request for information during community planning phase to collect demographic information and to identify specific needs. The planning staff next conduct individual interviews of property owners and provide language assistance when they identify a need. Personnel also analyze data sources to ensure nondiscrimination in the valuation of properties, during the negotiation process, and/or any during relocation activities.

Distribution of the 2016-2018 FTA funding per ITD Transit District is located at: <a href="http://gis.hwlochner.com/itd\_transit\_providers/">http://gis.hwlochner.com/itd\_transit\_providers/</a>. ITD did not identify any evidence of disparate impacts on the basis of race, color, or national origin. This map is a "living map" and will be monitored for significant changes in population and potential discriminatory impact.

## VIII.TITLE VI NONDISCRIMINATION TRAINING

ITD management requires all ITD staff to receive nondiscrimination training upon hire and annually thereafter. The OCR Office staff in coordination with the Human Resource Services (HRS) Unit designs and provides a variety of Title VI nondiscrimination training to both internal staff and external partners. ITD determines the frequency and delivery of training as follows:

- Employee, consultant, or contractor date of hire
- A request by internal unit or subrecipient
- Corrective Action mitigation
- ITD Program Area or subrecipients selected for annual review and training
- Annual refresher courses

Each year's ITD reports all Title VI Nondiscrimination training accomplishments to the FHWA as part of the annual assurances reporting.

#### **Internal Training**

The Human Resource Services conducts nondiscrimination training during new hire onboarding. The OCR staff provides Title VI Program trainings to Department staff with responsibility for contract oversight. These trainings provide a review of federal requirements for oversight, data collection, and reporting responsibilities. The goal is to provide training to all PACs and ancillary staff who provide Title VI Program oversight in their respective area of control. Title VI training emphasizes the importance of collecting data and developing tools to use to ensure nondiscrimination. The OCR staff receives training through webinars and one-one sessions with the Federal Administrative Offices.

## **External Training**

The Planning Area Coordinator and the OCR provide Title VI Program training to sub-recipients before and after award of contract. The OCR staff develops and delivers Title VI Program training to external partners and subrecipients addressing common questions and best practices surrounding Title VI Program activities such as, how to collect data, conduct complaint investigations, and satisfy reporting requirements. The OCR also provides training to subrecipients on how to develop and implement a Title VI Program Plan. The participants receive training in the following priority:

· Complaints received

- Requests by the subrecipient
- Title VI Program review scheduled with the LPA or MPO

#### IX. COMPLAINT PROCEDURES

Any person or any specific class of persons, by themselves or by a representative, that believe they have been subjected to discrimination or retaliation prohibited by Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 (Title VI) and related statutes, Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 (Section 504), or Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (ADA) may file a complaint.

#### **Procedures**

- 1. A complaint is a written or electronic statement concerning an allegation of discrimination that contains a request for the receiving office to take action. Complaints should be in writing and signed and may be filed by mail, fax, in person, or e-mail. A complaint should contain at least the following information:
  - a. A written explanation of what has happened;
  - b. A way to contact the complainant;
  - c. The basis of the complaint, e.g., age, sex, race, color, national origin, or disability;
  - d. The identification of the respondent, e.g., agency/organization alleged to have discriminated;
  - e. Sufficient information to understand the facts that led the complainant to believe that discrimination occurred; and,
  - f. The date(s) of the alleged discriminatory act(s).
- 2. While the above indicates a complaint should be in writing and signed, ITD Office of Civil Rights will accept complaints in alternate formats from persons with disabilities, upon request. In addition, the following format options for filing a complaint are available:

By electronically submitting and digitally signing the Complaint Form, located at <u>Discrimination Complaint Form.</u>

- a. By printing out a copy of the form in Appendix E, filing it out, and signing and submitting it.
- b. By calling the ITD OCR Program Manager/Title VI/Nondiscrimination Coordinator at (208) 334-8884. The manager will obtain the complaint information, he/she will

- complete the form, and subsequently ITD staff will forward the filled out complaint form to the complainant for review, signature, and then complainant must return the signed form back to ITD.
- c. Upon request, the complaint form will be provided in additional formats such as braille or audio tape.
- 3. Complaints must be filed within 180 days of the last date of the alleged discrimination, unless the time for filing is extended (49 CFR 21.11 and 27.123). The filing date of the complaint is the earlier of: (1) the postmark of the complaint, or (2) the date the complaint is received by any office authorized to receive complaints. An extension may be granted under any of the following circumstances:
  - a. The complainant could not reasonably be expected to know the act was discriminatory within the 180-day period, and the complaint was filed within 60 days after the complainant became aware of the alleged discrimination;
  - The complainant was unable to file a complaint because of incapacitating illness or other incapacitating circumstances during the 180-day period, and the complaint was filed within 60 days after the period of incapacitation ended;
  - c. The complainant filed a complaint alleging the same discriminatory conduct within the 180-day period with another Federal, State or local civil rights enforcement agency, and filed a complaint with DOT within 60 days after the other agency had completed its investigation or notified the complainant that it would take no further action;
  - d. The complainant filed, within the 180-day period, an internal grievance alleging the same discriminatory conduct that is the subject of the DOT complaint, and the complaint is filed no later than 60 days after the internal grievance is concluded;
  - e. Unique circumstances generated by DOT action have adversely affected the complainant;
  - f. The discriminatory act is of a continuing nature; or
  - g. Some complaints will be referred to USDOT by other agencies. In the event the referring agency has possessed the complaint for an inordinately long period of time and the complainant filed his or her complaint with that agency within the 180-day timeframe DOT will automatically grant an informal extension.
- 4. Upon receipt of a completed complaint, the OCR Program Manager/Title VI/Nondiscrimination Coordinator will determine jurisdiction, acceptability, or need for additional information and, within five days, and afterward acknowledge receipt of the complaint and the intended course of action.

ITD has authority to investigate and adjudicate complaints filed against its subrecipients. Once ITD finishes an investigation report, staff will forward a copy of the Report of Investigation (ROI) to FHWA within 60 days for review and concurrence before issuing any final decision. For complaints filed against ITD, it has 60 days to refer the complaint to the FHWA, Idaho Division for processing.

- 5. For acceptance, a complaint must be:
  - Filed timely
  - Involve a covered basis (i.e., race, color, national origin, age, sex, disability, LEP, or income status)
  - Within ITD's authority and jurisdiction.
- 6. Complaints may be dismissed if the complainant:
  - Requests the withdrawal of the complaint
  - Fails to respond to repeated requests for additional information
  - Fails to cooperate in the investigation
  - ITD staff cannot reach or contact the complainant they made reasonable attempts to contact the complainant.
- 7. ITD OCR maintains a confidential log of all accepted and/or forwarded Title VI Program Complaints which includes:
  - Name of complainant(s)
  - Date the complaint was received
  - Date of the allegation
  - Description of the alleged discrimination
  - Other relevant information, as needed
  - Report date
  - Recommendations
  - Outcome/Disposition.
- 8. Upon accepting a complaint, the OCR Program Manager/Title VI/Nondiscrimination Coordinator or assigned OCR investigator will:

- Develop an investigation plan. It defines the basis(es) and issue(s). It contains
  information about the parties. It lists questions to ask and it outlines documents to be
  included in the investigation. This includes applicable law references. It includes the
  complainant, the accused, and any witness information. The plan should have a
  series of questions for the complainant, the accused, and any other witnesses.
- Provide the accused an opportunity to respond to the allegations within 10 calendar days from the OCR's written notification to furnish a written response.

The investigator will analyze the evidence and determine if he/she needs additional information to complete his/her report. He/she might contact the complainant another time. That person will then have an additional 10 calendar days to provide the additional information.

If an investigation indicates there has been a violation of Title VI, OCR attempts to obtain voluntary compliance. If it cannot obtain voluntary compliance within 10 calendar days, OCR will issue the final determination with any remedial action(s) required.

- 9. Within 45 days of accepting a complaint, an ITD Investigator will:
  - Gather all relevant information in a fair and impartial manner
  - Conduct interviews of all concerned parties
  - Prepare the final investigative report, whereby detailing the allegations, outlining
    conclusions, and providing any final decisions based on logical and reasonable
    reflection of the factual evidence presented. Next, the final report should render the
    final decision by ITD. It should make recommendations to eliminate or provide
    corrective actions to eliminate any discriminatory practice found.
- 10. Upon final determination, one of two letters will be issued to the complainant:
  - A letter summarizing the allegations stating that there was no Title VI Program violation and that the case will be closed, or
  - A final decision including a synopsis summarizing the allegations, it will discuss the
    interviews regarding the alleged incident, and it will explain any remedial action,
    additional training(s) of staff, or describe other types of actions that will result
    because of the violation.
- 11. Complaints that fall under the jurisdiction of FHWA or FTA:
  - ITD OCR Program Manager/Title VI/Nondiscrimination Coordinator will forward any Title VI complaint against ITD to FHWA or FTA within 60 days

- Once FHWA or FTA issues its final decision, it will notify ITD and, ITD will notify all parties involved.
- 12. All allegations of discrimination will be taken seriously and every effort will be made to provide a fair and unbiased determination. In instances where there is dissatisfaction with ITD's determination, the complainant may file a complaint directly with the appropriate USDOT modality (see contact information Appendix F):
  - US Department of Transportation, Federal Highway Administration, Idaho Division
  - US Department of Transportation, Federal Aviation Administration
  - US Department of Transportation, Federal Motor Carriers Safety Administration
  - US Department of Transportation, Federal Transit Administration
  - US Department of Transportation, National Highway Traffic Safety Administration.

For questions or information on how to file a complaint, please contact ITD Office of Civil Rights:

Jessika Phillips, Office of Civil Rights Program Manager/Title VI/Nondiscrimination Coordinator

Email: jessika.phillips@itd.idaho.gov

Phone: (208) 334-8884

13. Record and Report Transit Related Title VI Investigations, Complaints, or Lawsuits

Over the course of the reporting period since ITD's previous submission of a Title VI Program to FHWA and FTA, ITD received the following complaints filed with ITD or that names ITD for alleged discrimination in FY17:

On 4/26/17 a complaint was filed with FHWA for alleged ADA discrimination by ITD and Ada County DMV. FHWA determined the complaint was outside of FHWA's jurisdiction and referred the complaint to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA).

# X. DISSEMINATION OF TITLE VI INFORMATION

The Department continually works to improve its communication activities in order to improve efficiency, transparency and public outreach when making transportation decisions and while developing policies that influence project selection and development as well as how the department maintains and operates highways. ITD uses a variety of methods in both print and electronic media to establish two-way communication aimed at incorporating the public's views, concerns and issues in the decision-making process.

First, ITD has a robust public involvement process used during programming, project planning and development, construction, emergency/disaster situations, or when there are other impacts to the road not associated with construction. ITD's public involvement goal is to reach informed decisions; ITD strives to meet this goal through the following objectives:

- Communicating complete, accurate, understandable and timely information to the stakeholders
- Actively gathering input from the community by providing stakeholders with meaningful
  opportunities to participate in processes, regardless of their race, color, national origin,
  sex, age, disability, economic status or limited English proficiency
- Considering and responding to stakeholder input in making decisions

Additionally, ITD consults with non-metropolitan officials and their agencies to provide outreach to address local needs and issues and to enhance public involvement. ITD participates in numerous advisory boards, committees, working groups and subcommittees to consult with local officials during transportation planning. The Idaho Public Transportation Plan Outreach Summary is located at: <a href="http://apps.itd.idaho.gov/apps/pt/Public-Outreach-Summary.pdf">http://apps.itd.idaho.gov/apps/pt/Public-Outreach-Summary.pdf</a>.

Each division of ITD includes the Title VI/Nondiscrimination statement in their publications and each homepage on the ITD Website. In addition, The Office of Civil Rights' website (ITD Office of Civil Rights) provides information about and resources for ITD's Civil Rights programs. The Office of Civil Rights conducts ongoing training where the Title VI/Nondiscrimination documents are reviewed.

The following Title VI policy statement is included in ITD websites and published documents:

The Idaho Transportation Department (ITD) is committed to compliance with Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 and all related Nondiscrimination authorities. In accordance with Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, the Civil Rights Restoration Act of 1987, Federal-Aid Highway Act of 1973, Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (ADA), the Age Discrimination Act of 1975 and Executive Orders 12898 (Environmental Justice) and 13166 (Limited English Proficiency), ITD does not and will not exclude from participation in or deny the benefits of its programs or activities; or subject anyone to discrimination or treat persons unfavorably based on race, color, national origin, sex, age, disability, limited English proficiency or economic status. In addition, ITD will not retaliate against any person who complains of discrimination or who participates in an investigation of discrimination.

Further, complaints may be filed by any person who believes that he or she has been excluded from participation in, been denied the benefits of, or otherwise been subjected to discrimination under any Idaho Transportation Department (ITD) service, program or activity, and believes the discrimination is based upon disability. Complaints will be accepted in writing only, must be signed, and may be filed with ITD's Equal Employment Opportunity Office in Boise, the U.S.

Department of Transportation (USDOT), the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), and/or the Federal Transit Administration (FTA) within 180 days of the alleged discriminatory act (or latest occurrence).

The complaint form is located at <u>Title VI Program Discrimination Complaint Form</u> or if you need assistance call ITD's OCR Program Manager/Title VI/Nondiscrimination Coordinator at (208)334-8884.

# XI. LANGUAGE ACCESS PLAN (LIMITED ENGLISH PROFICIENCY)

The term Limited English Proficiency or LEP means an individual having a limited ability to read, write, speak, or understand English. LEP individuals might require language assistance to understanding how to access or use a particular type of program, service, or activity.

The Department ensures compliance with LEP Executive Order 13166 and related federal authorities by implementing an LEP plan throughout the Department. To develop the Plan, the Department analyzed its service population; the frequency with which it encounters LEP persons; the nature of its programs and services; and the resources available to the Department. The Plan describes how and when to extent language services to those who are LEP. All the same, each District has the resources and flexibility to contract outside services as needed to comply with the LEP Plan. The Department provides verbal language assistance, free of charge, given reasonable notice.

A person can access ITD's LEP plan at ITD Limited English Plan.

# XII. ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE (EJ) PLAN

The department must implement Executive Order 12898 and other related USDOT and FHWA Orders during the transportation design, planning, and project development phases of a project. This includes the Department to analyzing the environmental effects, together with human health, economic, and social effects, of actions, effecting minority communities and low-income communities. Likewise, the Department must implement EJ and other nondiscrimination principles and responsibilities during the course of the NEPA process (National Environmental Policy Act of 1969, 42 U.S.C. section 4321 et seq.). Any mitigation measures outlined or analyzed in an Environmental Assessment (EA), Environmental Impact Statement (EIS), or Record of Decision (ROD), whenever feasible, should address significant and adverse environmental effects of any proposed actions on minority communities and low-income communities.

Environmental Justice is the fair treatment and meaningful involvement of all people regardless of minority or income status with respect to the development, implementation, and enforcement

of environmental laws, regulations, and policies. Fair treatment means (1) that all persons share in the benefits of our investments; and (2) that no person (including minority or low-income groups) should bear a disproportionate share of the negative consequences resulting from the execution of federal, state, and local programs and policies. There are three fundamental environmental justice principles:

- 1. Avoid, minimize, or mitigate disproportionately high and adverse human health and environmental effects, including social and economic effects, on minority populations and low-income populations.
- 2. Ensure the full and fair participation by all potentially affected populations in the transportation decision-making process.
- 3. Prevent the denial of, reduction in or significant delay in the receipt of benefits by minority and low-income populations.

Access the ITD Environmental Justice Plan at ITD Environmental Justice Plan.

### XIII. REVIEW OF ITD DIRECTIVES

Annually, the Office of Civil Rights Program Manager/Title VI/Nondiscrimination Coordinator will review all new ITD directives. Those issued by other governing bodies and state agencies, such as those issued from the governor's office, impacting program area operations will be reviewed, changes highlighted, and when there will be Title VI/ Nondiscrimination implications, the Office of Civil Rights will share this information with Program Area Coordinators, executive staff, and management as deemed necessary.

# XIV. COMPLIANCE & ENFORCEMENT PROCEDURES

Section VI Program Area Review Procedures outlines how the Office of Civil Rights conducts annual reviews of ITD Program Areas and subrecipients. The OCR Program Manager/Title VI/Nondiscrimination Coordinator analyzes the data from the reviews to identify trends or patterns of discrimination or deficiencies in the Title VI/Nondiscrimination Program. When deficiencies exist, OCR will provide technical assistance in the implementation of the Title VI/Nondiscrimination program and assist in developing action plans to improve implementation activities and eliminate discriminatory activities. Once the ITD establishes a corrective action plan, then ITD OCR will conduct subsequent Title VI/Nondiscrimination reviews to monitor the plan and ensure compliance.

# XV. FEDERAL MOTOR CARRIER SAFETY ADMINISTRATION (FMCSA)

#### **Access to Records**

ITD will provide to FMCSA upon request during normal business hours Title VI Program-related documentation.

# **Title VI Program Compliance Review**

No Federal Agency has previously conducted a Title VI Program Compliance Review of ITD.

#### XVI. APPENDICES

#### **Appendix A: Authorities**

Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 prohibits discrimination in Federal and Federally assisted projects and programs based upon race, color, and national origin. Since 1964, additional statutes prohibit discrimination based upon sex (Federal-aid Highway Act of 1973), age (The Age Discrimination Act of 1975), and disability (Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 and Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990). Collectively FHWA defines a Title VI Program to prohibit discrimination based upon race, color, national origin, sex, age, or disability. In addition, since the Executive Orders regarding Environmental Justice (Executive Order #12898) and Limited English Proficiency (Executive Order #13166) are non-discriminatory in their intent, while they are not statutes and someone cannot sue because of them, FHWA includes the E.O.s under the Title VI Program.

While Executive Orders and other guidance do not directly apply to Recipients, they do direct Federal agencies to take specific actions concerning federally assisted programs and activities of their Recipients. As a result, this requires these agencies to ensure that ITD undertake certain activities. As an example, Executive Order 12898, 3 C.F.R. 859 (1995), entitled "Federal Actions to Address Environmental Justice in Minority Populations and Low-Income Populations," emphasizes that Federal agencies have a duty to use existing laws to achieve Environmental Justice, in particular Title VI, to ensure nondiscrimination for low-income and minority populations. Executive Order 13166, 3 C.F.R. 289 (2001) on Limited English Proficiency, according to the U.S. Department of Justice in its Policy Guidance Document dated August 16, 2000 (65 Fed. Reg. at 50123), clarifies the responsibilities associated with the application of Title VI's prohibition on national origin discrimination when providing information only in English to persons with limited English proficiency.

#### List of Title VI/Nondiscrimination Authorities:

- Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 (42 USC § 2000d, 78 stat. 252) prohibits discrimination in federally funded programs on the basis of race, color, and national origin.
- Federal-Aid Highway Act of 1973 (23 USC § 324): amended Title VI to prohibit discrimination on the basis of sex in Federal-Aid highway programs.
- Uniform Relocation Assistance and Real Property Acquisition Policies Act of 1970, as amended (42 USC § 4601): prohibits unfair and inequitable treatment of persons as a result of projects that are undertaken with Federal Financial Assistance.
- Age Discrimination Act of 1975, as amended (42 USC § 6101): prohibits discrimination in federally funded programs on the basis of age.
- Civil Rights Restoration Act of 1987 (Public Law 100-259 March 1988) amended Title VI
  of the 1964 Civil Rights Act to make clear that discrimination is prohibited throughout all
  the operations of an agency if any part of the agency receives Federal assistance.
- Executive Order 12898: Federal Actions to Address Environmental Justice in Minority Populations and Low-Income Populations
- Executive Order 13166 (Limited English Proficiency): Improving Access to Services for Persons with Limited English Proficiency.
- 23 CFR Part 200: FHWA Title VI Program and Related Statutes Implementation and Review Process
- Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, (29 USC § 794) as amended: prohibits discrimination on the basis of disability.
- Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, (42 USC § 12101): prohibits discrimination on the basis of disability.
- The National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (42 USC § 4321) prohibits disproportionately high and adverse human health or environmental effects of its programs, policies, and activities on minority populations and low-income populations.
- 49 CFR Part 21: Nondiscrimination in Federally-Assisted Programs of The Department of Transportation Effectuation of Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964.
- 49 CFR Part 27: Nondiscrimination On the Basis of Disability in Programs or Activities Receiving Federal Financial Assistance.

- 49 CFR Part 28: Enforcement of Nondiscrimination on the Basis of Handicap in Programs or Activities Conducted by the Department of Transportation.
- 49 CFR Part 37: Transportation Services for Individuals with Disabilities ADA.
- 28 CFR Part 35: Discrimination on the Basis of Disability in State and Local Government Services.
- 28 CFR Part 50.3: Department of Justice Guidelines for Enforcement of Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964.

# **Appendix B: ITD OCR Organization Chart**

# Idaho Transportation Department Office of Civil Rights



# Appendix C: ITD-0654, Environmental Evaluation Form

cey i	iumber	Project Number			Program	Per	gest Name			DWs	
· In	ot City	county	Mout	Numb	er	_	Beginning Milepost	Ending Malepost	Progra	m Year	
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Page 1 of 2

Recommendation	
<ul> <li>A. The project does not individually or cumulatively have a significant adverse effect on the (Categorical Exclusion)</li> <li>□ 23 CFR 771.117(c), i.e., Type 1 - ITD Approval</li> <li>□ 23 CFR 771.117(d), i.e., Type 2 - Programmatic - ITD Approval</li> <li>□ 23 CFR 771.117(d), i.e., Type 3 - FHWA Approval</li> </ul>	
B. There is insufficient information to support A above or no precedent exists. (Environme	ntal Assessment)
$\ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ $	Impact Statement)
Prepared By (Consultant, District Environmental Planner, or LHTAC Signature*)	Date
Reviewed By (District Environmental Planner, Project Development Engineer, or LHTAC Signature*)	Date
One Signature by a Planner and one by Engineer or Consultant	
Project Description (if not attached)	

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# Appendix D: Title VI Program Area Review Questionnaire

# TITLE VI PROGRAM AREA REVIEW QUESTIONNAIRE FY() Planning/Program Management Section

The information requested is for the reporting period July 1, 20XX through June 30, 20XX. Reviewing actual documentation of your activities may be necessary in determining compliance, in addition to your narrative responses to the questions below. You may provide electronic documents or a link to your website for documents and materials as an alternative to providing a paper copy.

If you believe that a question does not pertain to your activities during the previous year, please state and provide the reason why it does not pertain. Please do not use 'not applicable' or 'N/A'. Do not leave questions blank.

#### **INTERNSHIP PROGRAM**

- Please list the number of interns hired during this reporting period and indicate their race and gender.
- What efforts are made to ensure that the internship program provides equal opportunity to minority and female students?

#### **CONSULTANT AGREEMENTS**

On the table below, list all the firms with whom you have agreements. Identify whether
the firm is an ITD-certified DBE, and indicate what work was performed along with the
dollar amount of the agreement.

Firm	DBE	Female	Minority	Work Performed	Amount

- 4. What is the process for selecting consultants for planning work?
- 5. What methods are used to provide female and minority consultants/subs with an equal opportunity for participation?

#### METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATIONS

6. What was the amount and type of federal (MPO) money passed through ITD?

Fund Category	COMPASS	вро	вмро	КМРО	LCVMPO

#### STRATEGIES/SERVICE EQUITIES

- What strategies are used to ensure that all components of the transportation planning process comply with Title VI?
- 8. How is Planning using demographic data in conducting transportation equity analyses, origin-destination studies, corridor studies, or other assessments regarding determining transportation needs?
- 9. With respect to minority and low-income populations, how do you use demographic information to assess the distribution of benefits/burdens across various community groups?
- 10. What data source and tools do you use to support the analysis?

#### COORDINATION WITH TRIBAL GOVERNMENTS

- 11. What process do you have in place that will help ensure that ITD provides opportunities for active involvement of Indian tribal governments in statewide and metropolitan planning and programming?
- 12. How is participation solicited?
- 13. What specific involvement activities are taking place at the local level by district planners?

AC	COMPLISHMENTS							
14	During this past year, were there any instances where Title VI issues were identified and discrimination prevented?							
	If yes, describe action take	n.						
15.		What efforts were made to take Environmental Justice concerns into consideration in the transportation planning process?						
TR	AINING							
16	Did anyone from Planning nathis reporting period?	eceive any Title VI or Environmental Ju	stice training during					
			Yes No					
	Employee Name	Course Attended	Date Attended					
со	MPLAINTS							
17.	Did Transportation Planning receive any Title VI-related complaints during this reporting period?							
	If yes, please detail and de	escribe action taken.						
со	COMPLIANCE							
13,	List individual responsible within the Planning/Program Management Section (2PM) for Title VI monitoring and compliance.							

-3-

# Appendix E: ITD Title VI Program Discrimination Complaint Form

Top of Form

•	Title VI Program Discriminatio What is your Name? *	n Complaint Form	
	First Name	Last Name	
•	Please Include Your Address	*	
Γ	Street Address		
		Street Address Line 2	
	City		State / Province
	Postal / Zip Code	Please Select Country	_
•	What is Your Phone Number * What is the Name of the Person	* on(s) or Entity that Discriminated A্	gainst You *
Г	<del></del>		
•	Date of Alleged Incident *		
- 1	Month - Day Year 🗷		
•	Please Select the Basis for the	e Discrimination *	
┌ Lin	Race Color National nited English Proficiency	Origin Sex Age Disabil	ity Income Status
•		as possible what happened and how olved and describe the corrective a	



- Please attach any supporting documents.
- By clicking the signature button below, you certify that the information you provided is both factual and accurate. \*

Electronic Signature

- Submit
- Should be Empty:

**Bottom of Form** 

# **Appendix F: Modality Contact Information**

#### US Department of Transportation, Federal Highway Administration, Idaho Division

3050 Lakeharbor Lane, #126

Boise, ID 83703

Phone: (208) 334-1843

Website: https://www.fhwa.dot.gov/iddiv/

#### US Department of Transportation, Federal Aviation Administration

800 Independence Avenue, SW

Washington, DC 20591

Phone: 1-866-TELL-FAA (1-866-835-5322)

Website: http://www.faa.gov/

#### US Department of Transportation, Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration

1200 New Jersey Ave. SE Washington, DC 20590 Phone: 202-366-8810

Website: https://www.fmcsa.dot.gov/

#### US Department of Transportation, Federal Transit Administration

1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE

Washington, DC 20590 Phone: 202-366-4043

Website: https://www.transit.dot.gov/

#### US Department of Transportation, National Highway Traffic Safety Administration

1200 New Jersey Ave. SE, Washington, DC 20590 Phone: 1-888-327-4236 TTY: 1-800-424-9153

Website: http://www.nhtsa.gov/